

ON THE BIRDS OF THE KAREN HILLS AND KARENNI
FOUND OVER 3,000 FEET.

BY

H. C. SMITH, M.B.O.U., P. F. GARTHWAITE, AND
B. E. SMYTHIES,

Burma Forest Service,

assisted by

The late DR. C. B. TICEHURST, M.A., M.R.C.S., M.B.O.U. etc.

(Continued from Vol. xliii, No. 3 (1942), p. 474).

PART II.

711. *Lanius c. colluroides*. Burmese Shrike.

Previous records.—Karen Hills; Karenni (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—Nattaung 1 ♀.

Noted.—Probably breeds in these hills. Not seen at Thandaung.

712a. *Lanius nasutus tricolor*. Burmese Black-headed Shrike.

Previous records.—Karen Hills.

Specimens.—None this year.

Noted.—We did not meet with this species again.

716a. *Lanius schach nipalensis*. Grey-backed Shrike.

Previous records.—Karen Hills 4,000 feet (Wardlaw Ramsay); Taho (Salva-dori).

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—One bird was seen in the tea estate at Thandaung on 11 October 1941.

719. *Lanius c. cristatus*. Brown Shrike.

Previous records.—Karen Hills (Salvadori); Karenni (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—Thandaung 1 ♀.

Noted.—This bird appeared in the tea estate in Thandaung on 7 May as a passage migrant; others were seen on 9 and 10 October 1941.

724. *Hemipus p. picatus*. Black-backed Pied Shrike.

Previous records.—Karenni (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—Nattaung 1 ♀.

Noted.—Several parties were noted in Thandaung in September and October, but it is chiefly a bird of the foothills.

727. *Tephrodornis gularis pelvica*. Nepal Wood Shrike.

Previous records.—Thandaung (Cook).

Specimens.—None this year.

Noted.—Occasionally seen both on Nattaung (where a pair was observed feeding young) and at Thandaung.

729. *Tephrodornis p. pondiceriana*. Indian Common Wood Shrike.

Previous records.—Karenni (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—Not seen, except for one party on Nattaung not identified for certain.

734. *Pericrocotus speciosus elegans*. Burmese Scarlet Minivet.

Previous records.—Karen Hills; Karenni (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—Nattaung 1♂; Thandaung 1♂.

Noted.—Common.

739. *Pericrocotus brevirostris* subsp. Short-billed Minivet.

Previous records.—Karenni 3,000 feet (Wardlaw Ramsay); pine forests of the Salween (Davison).

Specimens.—Nattaung 2♂.

Noted.—Not collected at Thandaung, but probably occurs.

742. *Pericrocotus s. solaris*. Yellow-throated Minivet.

Previous records.—None before 1939.

Specimens.—Nattaung 1♂.

Noted.—Not collected at Thandaung, but may occur.

[744. *Pericrocotus r. roseus*. Rosy Minivet.

According to the *F.B.I.* it has been recorded from the Shan States and Tenasserim and is therefore likely to occur in our area, but so far there are no records or specimens.]

[746. *Pericrocotus cinnamomeus vividus*. Burmese Small Minivet.

Wardlaw Ramsay obtained it in Karenni, elevation not stated. We have not seen it and doubt whether it occurs over 3,000 feet.]

754. *Lalage melaschistos melanoptera*. Pale Grey Cuckoo-Shrike.

Previous records.—Karen Hills; Karenni (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—Nattaung 1♀ juv.; Thandaung 1♀.

Noted.—Common on Nattaung but at Thandaung noted only at the end of the rains. It is curious that the call-note: 4 notes with the last two dropping in pitch, *wee-wee-weyou-weyou*; should differ from this bird's call in Maymyo.

761. *Graucalus macei siamensis*. Siamese Large Cuckoo-Shrike.

Previous records.—Karen Hills and Karenni (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—Not uncommon on Nattaung and also noted at Thandaung.

763. *Artamus fuscus*. Ashy Swallow-Shrike.

Previous records.—None before 1939.

Specimens.—None this year.

Noted.—Not seen at Thandaung but may occur.

769. *Dicrurus macrocercus cathoecus*. Chinese Black Drongo.

Previous records.—Karenni (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—Once only, at Thandaung on 22 October when it was probably on passage.

772. *Dicrurus leucophaeus mohouti*. Burmese Grey Drongo.

Previous records.—Karenni (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—Nattaung 2♀.

Noted.—Status uncertain. It seemed to be absent from Thandaung in September but was much in evidence in October; after 1 May it again disappeared, so that it may only winter in the hills.

780. *Chaptia aenea aenea*. Northern Bronzed Drongo.

Previous records.—Karen Hills and Karenni (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—Nattaung 1♀.

Noted.—Occasionally seen both on Nattaung and at Thandaung.

782. *Chibia h. hottentotta*. Indian Hair-crested Drongo.

Previous records.—Karen Hills (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—Seen at Thandaung in October and March (when it was common), and on Nattaung in evergreen and pine forest up to 5,000 feet.

786. *Bhringa remifer tectirostris*. Indian Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo.

Previous records.—Karen Hills (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—Common both on Nattaung and at Thandaung.

[788. *Dissemurus paradiseus rangoonensis*. Burmese Large Racket-tailed Drongo.

Recorded by Salvadori from the Karen Hills (elevation?); we have not seen it and doubt whether it occurs over 3,000 feet. Cook, who recorded it as common and breeding at Thandaung, must have confused it with the preceding species.]

803. *Acrocephalus agricola stevensi*. Plains Paddy-field Warbler.

Previous records.—Karenni (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—Nattaung 1 ♀, 1 ♂; Thandaung 2 ♂.

Noted.—Not uncommon on Nattaung and noted up to 23 April; several birds were observed in the tea estate at Thandaung in March, but they had all left by 24 April. We saw no signs of breeding, and the bird appears to be either a winter visitor or a passage migrant. In the field it resembles *Phylloscopus juscatus*, and has a similar call-note, but can be distinguished by the fact that it is much less active and more of a skulker; it is also lighter in colour and has a noticeably longer and more ragged tail. It frequents thick undergrowth where there is little or no overhead cover, and though sometimes seen near the bank of a stream it was more often, and more surprisingly, observed on the driest of dry ridges, where it was wont to lie dormant most of the day and come to life only in the early mornings or evenings. It is most difficult to observe, and on one occasion it took a full hour of watching and waiting to get a glimpse of a bird calling in thick undergrowth. The fact that the first specimens were identified by us (incorrectly) as *Tribura* sp. indicates the difficulty of naming these skulking Warblers, even with the bird in the hand.

814. *Orthotomus sutorius patia*. Burmese Tailorbird.

Previous records.—Karen Hills and Karenni (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—Not seen by us.

818. *Orthotomus atrogularis nitidus*. Burmese Black-necked Tailorbird.

Previous records.—None.

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—Not uncommon both on Nattaung and at Thandaung, where breeding pairs were observed in May. It is very tame and I have watched a pair at a range of four feet; the sexes are easy to distinguish in the field and the trilling call-note *kri-kri-kri*, repeated a varying number of times, is quite distinctive.

827. *Franklinia gracilis hodgsoni*. Franklin's Wren-Warbler.

Previous records.—Karenni (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—None this year.

Noted.—Franklinias were twice seen at Thandaung, but the species was not distinguished.

828. *Franklinia r. rufescens*. Beavan's Wren-Warbler.

Previous records.—Karen Hills 2,000 feet (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—See under preceding species.

839. *Phragmaticola aedon*. Thick-billed Warbler.

Previous records.—Karenni (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—Thandaung 1 ♀.

Noted.—Several birds arrived in Thandaung on 8 May on passage, and birds were seen and heard singing up to 12 May, when I left. The song is mainly low in pitch and lacks power, but though thin is not unpleasant.

[*Note*.—Some of the other migrant Warblers may occur in the hills on passage and should be looked for. A small party that I strongly suspect were *Acrocephalus arundinaceus*, but of which I failed to obtain a specimen, was seen in Thandaung on 8 May. A species of *Tribura* has recently been obtained on Mt. Byingye and is likely to occur in our area.]

851. *Phylloscopus schwarzi*. Radde's Willow Warbler.

Previous records.—Karen Hills (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—Thandaung 1 ♂, 1 ♀, 1 o.

Noted.—It probably winters in the tea estate and was very common there in March; birds on passage were noted in April-May, the last on 9 May, and the first specimen was obtained on 3 November. It resembles *P. fuscatus* in habits and makes a *tshik tshik* note in bushes, but is easily recognised by plumage.

864. *Phylloscopus p. pulcher*. Nepal Orange-barred Willow Warbler.

Previous records.—Karenni, 3,000 feet (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—None this year.

Noted.—Scarce and confined to the higher slopes of Nattaung.

871. *Phylloscopus i. inornatus*. Crowned Willow Warbler.

Previous records.—None before 1939?

Specimens.—Nattaung 1 ♂.

Noted.—Common and probably winters all through these hills.

871. *Phylloscopus proregulus chloronotus*. La Touche's Yunnan Willow Warbler.

Previous records.—Taho (Salvadori); pine forests near papun (Davison).

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—Not seen by us.

863. *Phylloscopus m. maculipennis*. Grey-faced Willow Warbler.

Previous records.—None nearer than Mt. Victoria and North-East Burma.

Specimens.—Nattaung 2 ♀, 1 o.

Noted.—Found only on Sosiko, 7,000-7,500 feet. It is easily recognised by small size, intense activity, and grey head contrasting with olive-green back and yellow rump. Those observed were working through the undergrowth in evergreen at 3 to 6 feet from the ground. No evidence of breeding was obtained.

[878. *Phylloscopus magnirostris*. Large-billed Willow Warbler.

Davison obtained it at Thaton, and it is not unlikely to occur in the hills on passage though there is no record so far. The dark tip to the lower mandible is probably the best field distinction from the next species.]

880. *Phylloscopus t. trochiloides*. Dull Green Willow Warbler.

Previous records.—None?

Specimens.—Thandaung 2 ♂ (25-9-39) and (7-5-40), 1 ♀ (28-4-40).

Noted.—Probably winters in small numbers.

876. *Phylloscopus trochiloides plumbeitarsus*. Middendorff's Willow Warbler.

Previous records.—None.

Specimens.—Thandaung 2 ♂ (25-9-39).

Noted.—These two specimens were the only birds seen, and must have been on passage.

[879. *Phylloscopus tenellipes*. Pale-legged Willow Warbler.

We did not meet with this species, which Davison obtained at Kyaukhnyat and which probably occurs in the hills on passage.]

884. *Phylloscopus reguloides assamensis*. Baker's Willow Warbler.

Previous records.—None before 1939?

Specimens.—Nattaung 2♂, 2♀.

Noted.—A male was shot off a nest on the top of Sosiko, 7,500 feet, on the edge of temperate forest. The nest was compactly made of moss and was built on the ground under a tuft of grass, and contained 3 young just ready to leave. Another nest, containing 2 young of about the same age, was found on a hillside under a tuft of grass; it was made entirely of moss of a felt-like texture, and had a dome of moss. The note of this bird is difficult to describe: *pit-chew-a-pit-chew-a-pit-chew-a...* the three notes slurred into each other to produce a continuous undulating wave of sound; the alarm-note is *zip-aye... zip-aye*, or *cheep-it...cheep-it*. Not collected at Thandaung but probably resident there also.

886. *Phylloscopus reguloides claudiae*. Pallas's Himalayan Willow Warbler.

Previous records.—None before 1939?

Specimens.—None this year.

Noted.—We were unable to detect any difference in the call-notes of *assamensis*, *claudiae*, and *davisoni*. All three are typical leaf *Phylloscopi*, frequenting the canopy and occasionally the understorey.

885. *Phylloscopus d. davisoni*. Tenasserim White-tailed Willow Warbler.

Previous records.—Thandaung, breeding (Cook).

Specimens.—Nattaung 1♂, 1♀, 1♂; Thandaung 1♀.

Noted.—Common.

[895. *Phylloscopus cantator*. Tickell's Willow Warbler.

Wardlaw Ramsay obtained it in the Karen Hills near Toungoo (elevation?), but we have not met with it east of the Sittang.]

890. *Seicercus burkii tephrocephalus*. Anderson's Flycatcher-Warbler.

Previous records.—Karen Hills (Wardlaw Ramsay); Tahoe (Salvadori).

Specimens.—Thandaung 1♂.

Noted.—Not uncommon both on Nattaung and at Thandaung. It keeps to dense bamboo thickets and undergrowth, and often associates with *Stachyris chrysaea*. It has a *chip-chip* call-note. It was observed from September to mid-April, but none was seen after 24 April, and it either becomes very secretive in the breeding season or else migrates. It is known to breed in the Chin Hills and North-East Burma and probably breeds in the Shan States; proof that it breeds in our area would be of interest.

896. *Abroscopus s. superciliaris*. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher-Warbler.

Previous records.—Karen Hills and Karenni (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—Nattaung 2♂, 1♀; Thandaung 1♂.

Noted.—Common both on Nattaung and at Thandaung up to 4,500 feet in *ponzo*, bamboo and wet thickets.

910. *Homochlamys fortipes* subsp. Strong-footed Bush Warbler.

Previous records.—Karenni (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—Nattaung 1♀; according to Dr. Ticehurst this specimen probably represents a new race.

Noted.—The only bird seen was skulking in long grass beside the Mawchi road at 4,500 feet and uttering a call-note like that of *Muscicapa parva* curtailed. In the field it looks a small dark brown bird with a buff supercilium.

913. *Homochlamys p. pallidipes*. Blanford's Bush Warbler.

Previous records.—Karen Hills (Wardlaw Ramsay); Papun (Davison).

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—Not seen by us.

922. *Phyllergates cucullatus coronatus*. Golden-headed Warbler.

Previous records.—Karen Hills (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—None this year.

Noted.—It is common both on Nattaung and at Thandaung, but keeps low down in dense bamboo thickets; one may wait half an hour or more close to a party calling busily without getting even a glimpse of a single bird. The call-note, not very well described in our previous notes, is most distinctive: a four note whistle, the first two notes on the same pitch, the third a trill (or 3 to 4 notes uttered very quickly) and the fourth is either higher or lower in pitch than the first two. This call is repeated in a remarkable number of keys, high and low. Like *Abroscopus* it occasionally climbs 20 or 30 feet up a tall bamboo when feeding.

930. *Suya s. superciliaris*. Anderson's Hill Warbler.

Previous records.—Karen Hills (Wardlaw Ramsay); Thandaung, breeding (Cook).

Specimens.—Nattaung 2 ♂; Thandaung 1 ♂ (30-4-41).

Noted.—It is a common resident, both in the grassy undergrowth of the pine forests on Nattaung and in the grassy *ponzo* in the tea estate at Thandaung. Its song, *chwee-chwee-chwee* . . . , 25 times in 10 seconds, is uttered from the top of a bush or tall reed and closely resembles the song of *Orthotomus sutorius patia*, though no doubt differences in volume and pitch would be noticeable if the two were heard calling together. Its call-note resembles the song but is louder, slower, and higher in pitch *pee-up, pee-up, pee-up*, Its alarm-note is a continuous reel, uttered by both birds at the nest.

950. *Irena puella sikkimensis*. Fairy Bluebird.

Previous records.—Western slopes of the Karen Hills (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—A bird is usually to be seen on the road up to Thandaung, and on 26 September a party of 4 was seen at 2,500 feet; it is mainly a bird of the foothills and probably seldom exceeds 3,000 feet. It is confined to evergreen and was not seen on Nattaung.

955. *Oriolus chinensis tenuirostris*. Burmese Black-naped Oriole.

Previous records.—Karenni (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—Thandaung 1 ♂ immature.

Noted.—Not uncommon. The race *diffusus* has been recorded from Thaton (Davison) and probably occurs in our area.

958. *Oriolus x. xanthornus*. Indian Black-headed Oriole.

Previous records.—Karenni (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—None seen by us; evidently scarce above 3,000 feet.

961. *Oriolus t. trailii*. Maroon Oriole.

Previous records.—Karen Hills and Karenni (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—Nattaung 1 ♀.

Noted.—It is not uncommon on Nattaung and frequents both evergreen and the more open parts along the Mawchi road, where the specimen was obtained. A bird was observed carrying food in its bill on 21 April. The notes are similar to those of *chinensis*, but rarely heard. Seen occasionally at Thandaung.

[964. *Gracula intermedia religiosa*. Indian Grackle.

There seem to be no records from the area; if it occurs it is probably confined to the foothills.]

970. *Saroglossa s. spiloptera*. Spotted-winged Stare.

Previous records.—Tolerably abundant on the thickly wooded slopes of the Karen Hills' (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—Not seen by us; as all the Burma records are between December and February we may have been too late for it.

Mynas. We saw none. Wardlaw Ramsay obtained in Karenni, Jerdon's Myna (*G. burmanica*) and the Siamese Jungle Myna (*Aethiopsar griseus grandis*), the latter at 3,000 feet. Mawchi, which we did not visit, is a likely place for them.

1024. *Uroloncha striata acuticauda*. Hodgson's Munia.

Previous records.—Karen Hills (Wardlaw Ramsay and Salvadori).

Specimens.—Nattaung 1♂.

Noted.—A few parties were seen in the growth beside streams running through *taungyas*, and once at 5,500 feet in pine forest. In Thandaung they are common in large parties all round the tea estate, and are probably the birds recorded by Cook as *punctulata*, which we did not see. A pair was observed building a nest on 12 May.

[1037. *Amandava a. flaviventris*. Burmese Red Munia.

Obtained by Wardlaw Ramsay in Karenni, elevation not stated. It is unlikely to occur above 3,000 feet.]

1069. *Carpodacus erythrinus roseatus*. Hodgson's Rose Finch.

Previous records.—Karen Hills (Wardlaw Ramsay and Salvadori).

Specimens.—Nattaung 1♀.

Noted.—Cook obtained one from the lower hills below Thandaung, but we have not seen it there.

1090. *Hypacanthis spinoides ambiguus*. Yunnan Green Finch.

Previous records.—None.

Specimens.—Nattaung 1♀, 1♂.

Noted.—Not seen at Thandaung and probably absent. It is common in the pine forests of Nattaung, in which it keeps mainly to the tree tops and frequently perches on the topmost point of small pines. The broad yellow band from base to tip of wing, dividing it into three roughly equal parts, is diagnostic in flight and the blackish head when perched. The call, freely uttered, is a thin metallic tinkle and quite distinctive.

1107. *Passer rutilans* subsp. Cinnamon Sparrow.

Previous records.—Karenni (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—Nattaung 2♂, too worn to determine subspecifically.

Noted.—Not seen at Thandaung. The specimens were obtained from isolated trees in *taungyas*, and one of them was singing something like *chwe-cha-cha* repeated over and over, a thin but pleasant song. One other male was seen but no females, which were probably sitting.

1108. *Passer flaveolus*. Pegu House Sparrow.

Previous records.—Karenni (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—Not seen by us; may not occur above 3,000 feet.

(*Note*.—We saw no 'house Sparrows' (*P. domesticus* & *P. montanus*) but they may occur at Mawchi).

1120. *Emberiza f. fucata*. Grey-headed Bunting.

Previous records.—Yado (Salvadori).

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—Not seen by us.

1122. *Emberiza pusilla*. Little Bunting.

Previous records.—Karenni (Wardlaw Ramsay); Yado (Salvadori).

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—Not seen by us. Possibly it migrates early.

1131. *Emberiza aureola*. Yellow-breasted Bunting.

Previous records.—Taho (Salvadori).

Specimens.—Thandaung 1♂, 1♀.

Noted.—The specimens were obtained at Thandaung in the tea estate on 28 April and 9 May, the male being one of a pair and the other a solitary bird. It does not winter at Thandaung, and these birds were passage migrants.

1135. *Emberiza rutila*. Chestnut Bunting.

Previous records.—Described by Wardlaw Ramsay as the common Bunting of the higher Karen Hills, and recorded by Salvadori from Yado. Cook obtained one at Thandaung in April.

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—The only bird seen was a male on 20 March at 4,200 feet in Thandaung, in undergrowth at the edge of a small clearing. It seems to be more of a forest bird than other Buntings, and possibly migrates early.

1139. *Melophus lathami subcrissata*. Crested Bunting.

Previous records.—Described by Wardlaw Ramsay as 'by far the commonest Bunting in the Karenee country, where the rocky scrub-covered hill-sides seem to suit it. It is particularly fond of the neighbourhood of tiny streams covered with bushes in open country. Their note, which is uttered on the wing, is a rather pleasing whistle quite unlike that of any other Bunting.' Apparently he did not find it over 3,000 feet. Recorded from Yado by Salvadori.

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—It is curious that we did not meet with this bird at all.

1143. *Martula urbica whiteleyi*. Siberian House Martin.

Previous records.—None.

Specimens.—Nattaung 1♀.

Noted.—As Stanford has commented (*Ibis*, Oct. 1938 p. 622) on the lack of authentic records of House Martins, the following notes may be of interest:—

A party of House Martins, either *M. u. whiteleyi* or *M. dasyptus cashmeriensis*, was observed hawking insects over the summit of the Kambilu Taung, 2,634 feet; this hill is in the Tharrawaddy district (Zigon forest division) a few hundred yards off the main Pegu Yoma ridge (Irrawaddy-Sittang divide), and is the second highest hill in the Pegu Yomas. The House Martins were in company with a large flock of White-rumped Swifts, and appeared little more than half their size. This was on 13 December 1935, but when I climbed the same hill on 7 December 1937 there were no House Martins.

A party of *M. d. cashmeriensis* (1♂ obtained and sent home to Dr. Ticehurst but unfortunately lost in transit) was observed hawking insects over the summit of a 5,208 foot peak in the Arakan Yomas close to the main Yoma ridge (Irrawaddy-Bay of Bengal divide); the summit is on the boundary between the Thayetmyo and Minbu districts, and is one of the few peaks in these hills with a bare grassy top. The birds were seen on 4 and 5 December 1938.

A large flock of House Martins was seen on Nattaung last year, but no specimen was obtained (vide our previous paper).

On Nattaung this year large flocks, totalling hundreds of birds were seen almost daily throughout our visit, and the specimen obtained was *M. u. whiteleyi*; they appeared at about 8 a.m. and hawked insects through the heat of the day over the pine forest, especially where the trees had been felled and the ridges and knolls were bare, until the early afternoon, when they disappeared.

Finally a large flock appeared in Thandaung on 29 April, but was not seen again.

It seems therefore that the Siberian House Martin is a regular winter visitor in comparatively large numbers, arriving early in November (when Livesey saw them at Taunggyi) and leaving in early May, and that it has been overlooked in the past only because it spends the winter over inaccessible

mountain ranges, whence it is occasionally driven by bad weather. It would be interesting to learn where they roost at night.

[1150a. *Riparia concolor sintaungensis*. Dusky Crag Martin.

This was obtained by Mr. H. C. Smith on Mt. Byingye in November 1938, and Davison observed Crag Martins in Tenasserim many years ago. We did not visit any rocky hill-tops, but observed some in the distance where these birds might occur.]

1153. *Hirundo rustica gutturalis*. Eastern Swallow.

Previous records.—None?

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—A flock appeared in Thandaung on passage on 30 April, a few of which stayed till 2 May.

[1154. *Hirundo rustica tytleri*. Tytler's Swallow.

Wardlaw Ramsay found them common in the plains of Karenni, and they probably pass through the hills on migration, but have not been recorded thence up to date.]

1160. *Hirundo daurica striolata*. Chinese Striated Swallow.

Previous records.—Karen Hills (Wardlaw Ramsay, recorded as *H. arctivitta*).

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—On 8 April 1938 we saw a Striated Swallow fly out of small cave beside the Mawchi road, and when we investigated on 18 April we found the beginnings of a mud nest, which the bird had evidently abandoned. It seems likely that *striolata* is resident in these hills.

1161. *Hirundo daurica japonica*. Hodgson's Striated Swallow.

Previous records.—None.

Specimens.—Thandaung 1 ♂.

Noted.—A large flock appeared on passage on 30 April and was not seen again; the birds mixed freely with the Eastern Swallows that appeared on the same date. Both species settle freely on telegraph wires. Another flock was seen on 22 March at Thandaung.

1166-73. *Motacilla alba* subsp. White Wagtail.

Previous records.—Karenni (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—A bird was seen in the tea estate at Thandaung on 8 October 1941.

1174. *Motacilla cinerea melanope*. Eastern Grey Wagtail.

Previous records.—Karen Hills.

Specimens.—Nattaung 1 ♂.

Noted.—It had arrived in Thandaung on 30 August 1941 and was common thereafter, especially along the roads. Last seen on 29 April.

1176. *Motacilla flava* subsp. Grey-headed Wagtail.

Previous records.—Karenni at 3,000 feet (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—Not seen by us.

1183. *Dendronanthus indicus*. Forest Wagtail.

Previous records.—None.

Specimens.—Thandaung 1 ♂ (24 September 1938).

Noted.—Two birds were seen along the Leiktho mule path on 24 September 1939 and one bird on the Kemapyu stream at 3,000 feet on 10 April. Status uncertain.

1186. *Anthus h. hodgsoni*. Indian Tree Pipit.

Previous records.—Karen Hills (Cook, Salvadori).

Specimens.—Thandaung 1 ♀, 1 ♂.

Noted.—It was not seen round Thandaung on 23-25 September, but was first noted on 8 October; it was last seen on 9 May when a specimen was obtained. On Nattaung it swarms in the grassy undergrowth of the dry pine ridges, where it may be found in the heat of the day when most birds have retreated to the valley bottoms. The return migration must take place early in May.

1193-4. *Anthus richardi* subsp. Richard's Pipit.

Previous records.—Karenni (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—Several birds were seen on passage in the tea estate at Thandaung, 7-9 May.

[*Anthus roseatus*? I saw a very dark Pipit along the Leiktho road on 23 September and failed to collect it. Unlike *A. h. hodgsoni* it did not fly up into a tree when disturbed but settled further along the path.]

1247. *Zosterops palpebrosa* subsp. White-eye.

Previous records.—Karen Hills (Wardlaw Ramsay); Karenni (Salvadori), recorded in *F.B.I.* as *Z. a. mesoxantha*.

Specimens.—Nattaung 1 ♀; Thandaung 5 ♂.

Noted.—Common in parties, especially at Thandaung, where the parties were splitting up into pairs in May.

[1252. *Zosterops simplex*. Pegu White-eye.

Cook recorded this as common at Thandaung and also listed it from Kalaw, but apparently did not collect any; we did not meet with it and further evidence of its occurrence in the area is required.]

1253. *Zosterops siamensis*. Siamese White-eye.

Previous records.—Karen Hills and Karenni.

Specimens.—Nattaung 3 ♂.

Noted.—In contrast to other White-eyes all those seen were solitary, frequenting open scrub along the Mawchi road and bushes near streams running through *taungyas*, 4,000-5,000 feet. It did not appear to be breeding. Its note differs from that of *palpebrosa* and is stronger.

— *Zosterops erythropleura*. Chinese White-eye.

Previous records.—None before 1939.

Specimens.—Thandaung 1 ♀.

Noted.—A winter visitor. It was not seen in Thandaung in September and October: the specimen was obtained out of a party seen on 2 November: a number of large parties were seen on 20-24 March, when the maroon on the flanks appeared much deeper than in November; and none was seen after I returned on 24 April, though I looked for them daily. Several parties were seen on Nattaung, but not after mid-April. In habits and voice it is similar to *palpebrosa*.

1260-2. *Aethopyga siparaja* subsp. Yellow-backed Sunbird.

Previous records.—None.

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—Except for a male seen in Thandaung on 1 November, uttering a very high pitched trilly song, we have not seen this species, which is more a bird of the foothills.

1271. *Aethopyga gouldiae dabryi*. Dabry's Sunbird.

Previous records.—Karen Hills; Karenni 4,000 feet (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—Nattaung 2 ♀; Thandaung 1 ♂.

Noted.—Rather scarce; in Thandaung it was seen only in November and March, and on Nattaung two or three times. It seems to prefer fairly open scrub and bushes bordering streams, and has twice been seen just below the top of Thandaung-gyi.

1273. *Aethopyga s. sanguinipectus*. Walden's Yellow-backed Sunbird.

Previous records.—Karen Hills; Karenni (type locality, Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—Nattaung 2♂; Thandaung 1♂, 1♀.

Noted.—Fairly common up to 5,000 feet. It keeps mainly to evergreen and is very partial to streams running through this type of forest, where I have often seen them feeding along the bushes on the banks in the middle of the day. It also visits the more open country.

1276a. *Aethopyga nipalensis karenensis*. Nattaung Sunbird.

Previous records.—None before 1939.

Specimens.—None this year.

Noted.—This appears to be confined to the Pine-Rhododendron association and temperate forest on the higher slopes of Nattaung; it is common there, but none was seen below 7,000 feet.

1279. *Cinnyris asiatica intermedia*. Burmese Purple Sunbird.

Previous records.—Karenni (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—Not seen by us. May not occur above 3,000 feet.

1293. *Arachnothera m. magna*. Indian Streaked Spiderhunter.

1294. *Arachnothera m. aurata*. Pegu Streaked Spiderhunter.

Previous records.—Karen Hills (Wardlaw Ramsay); Thandaung (Cook).

Specimens.—Thandaung 1♀ (nearest *aurata*); the specimen obtained last year on Nattaung was *magna*.

Noted.—The two races evidently intergrade in the Karen Hills. The bird is not uncommon and there seemed to be an influx at the end of April into Thandaung.

1296. *Arachnothera l. longirostra*. Little Spiderhunter.

Previous records.—Thandaung (Cook).

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—Scarce. Only observed in the tea estate at Thandaung in October, April and May. The flight is direct and strong, and a bleating note is uttered on the wing.

1298-9. *Dicaeum cruentatum* subsp. Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker.

Previous records.—None.

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—Although it is common in Toungoo town we have seen only one in the hills, on 2 November at Thandaung.

1300. *Dicaeum trigonostigma rubropygium*. Tenasserim Orange-bellied Flowerpecker.

Previous records.—Karen Hills 3,000 feet (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—Not seen by us.

1302. *Dicaeum chrysorrheum chrysochlore*. Burmese Yellow-vented Flowerpecker.

Previous records.—Karen Hills (common at 3,000 feet, F.B.I.).

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—Except for a pair in the tea estate on 10 May we saw none, and it must be either local or a bird of the foothills,

1303. *Dicaeum i. ignipectus*. Fire-breasted Flowerpecker.

Previous records.—Karenni.

Specimens.—Thandaung 1♂, 1♀.

Noted.—This is the typical Flowerpecker of the area; it keeps to the tree-tops and would escape observation but for its clicking note on the wing. I have seen a male utter a long continuous series of clicks from a perch, while swaying his body from side to side.

1306. *Dicaeum concolor olivaceum*. Plain-coloured Flowerpecker.

Previous records.—Karen Hills, type locality (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—Not seen by us.

[1312. *Piprisoma m. modestum*.

It has been recorded from the Southern Shan States, Tenasserim, and the Pegu Yomas in the Toungoo district, though not as yet from our area, in which it seems likely to occur.]

1316. *Anthocincla phayrei*. Phayre's Pitta.

Previous records.—This bird was first obtained in the Toungoo district, 'probably in the higher hills to the east of the Sittang river'. The *F.B.I.* states that Bingham found a nest at about 5,000 feet in the Karen Hills, whereas he actually found it near a Karen village in the Dawnas (Meple valley, Northern Tenasserim).

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—Not seen by us.

1318. *Pitta oatesi*. Fulvous Pitta.

Previous records.—Karenni 2,500-4,000 feet (Wardlaw Ramsay); Tahoe (Salvadori).

Specimens.—Nattaung 1♀.

Noted.—This, the only bird seen, was in the bed of a stream running through evergreen at 3,500 feet on Nattaung, and was obtained at about 2 p.m.

1320 *Pitta c. cyanea*. Blue Pitta.

Previous records.—Karen Hills (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—Thandaung 1♂.

Noted.—A bird was given alive and apparently uninjured by a Karen to the durwan of the Circuit House, but it died a few days afterwards and the corpse was presented to me on 22 October; seen once or twice near Pathi-chaung at about 500 feet.

[1321. *Pitta moluccensis*. Lesser Blue-winged Pitta.

The *F.B.I.* gives this from the Karen Hills, based on Hume's loose statement that it breeds from Arakan to Karenni; all specimens and records indicate that it is a low elevation species.]

[1325. *Pitta c. cucullata*. Green-breasted Pitta.

A Pitta seen on the Leiktho mule path, the upper-parts of which appeared very dark as it hopped off into the bamboo thickets below, must have belonged to this species; it was certainly not *P. moluccensis*, *P. c. cyanea*, or *P. oatesi*.]

[1328. *Eurylaimus javanicus* Horsfield's Broadbill.

Lloyd is said to have obtained it in the Toungoo hills, and the *F.B.I.* gives it from Karenni, but proof of its occurrence is desirable.]

1330. *Corydon sumatranus*. Dusky Broadbill.

Previous records.—Karen Hills (Wardlaw Ramsay).

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—Except for a bird seen in a tree-top beside the Leiktho mule path at 3,500 feet we have not met with this bird. The broad reddish bill and red orbital skin contrasting with the black head are diagnostic.

1333. *Serilophus l. lunatus*. Gould's Broadbill.

Previous records.—Karenni 3,000-4,000 (Wardlaw Ramsay). Karen Hills, Tahoe (Salvadori).

Specimens.—None.

Noted.—Not seen by us.

1335. *Psarisomus dalhousiae*. Long-tailed Broadbill.

Previous records.—Karen Hills (Wardlaw Ramsay); Yado (Salvadori).

Specimens.—Nattaung 1♂, 1♀.

Noted.—Fairly common, both on Nattaung and at Thandaung; it keeps mainly to evergreen, but we have noted it in high regrowth. The call is a loud piercing whistle of 5 to 8 notes with little if any change in pitch; it occasionally utters a single *weet* note. A pair was observed building a nest on 15 April. The nest was quite typical, suspended from the tip of a branch overhanging a stream where the pine forest merged into evergreen.

(To be continued)